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ART. X. — CRITICAL NOTICES.

1. — *Die Propheten und ihre Weissagungen. Eine apologetisch-hermeneutische Studie.* Von A. THOLUCK. Zweiter völlig unveränderter Abdruck. Gotha: F. A. Perthes. 1861. 8vo. pp. 206.

THIS work was undertaken by Professor Tholuck to refresh his intellect by a temporary change of the subject of his studies. It is designed mainly for amateurs in Biblical criticism, and takes a middle ground on the much disputed question of the extent of the inspiration of the Hebrew prophets. Tholuck holds that this inspiration is something more than keen-sighted patriotism and pious enthusiasm. It includes an objective and abnormal power of predicting future events. In defence of the existence of such a power, he refers to the analogy of Savonarola and other early Reformers, of modern clairvoyants, and of the ancient oracles. He holds that these cases, as acknowledged by the best German psychologists, prove that man has an innate, latent faculty of foreseeing the future. This faculty is more than ordinary sagacity or foresight, and is manifested only when excited by peculiar and exceptional causes. It was excited in the prophets by the spirit of God. There was this peculiarity in the case of the prophet, that he never lost his consciousness, and the higher reason at least was always active. Even in the frequent trances and visions, the receptive faculties of the intellect were in full activity, though the productive faculties might be dormant. The prophet did not speak of himself; the Lord spake through him.

Again, the vision of the prophet is not bounded by the political horizon. Tholuck thinks that the most foresighted statesmanship could not have suggested to Isaiah (chap. xxxix.) the possibility of the destruction of the kingdom of Judah by so insignificant a power as Babylon then was.

This book was so popular in Germany that the first edition was exhausted in a few weeks. We hope that it may find similar favor in America.

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2. — *The Great Sahara. Wanderings South of the Atlas Mountains.* By H. B. TRISTRAM, M. A., Master of Greatham Hospital, and Domestic Chaplain to the Earl of Donoughmore. With Maps and Illustrations. London: John Murray. 1860. 12mo. pp. 435.

THIS book is not precisely what its title represents it to be. Mr. Tristram never got fairly off the southern slope of the Atlas range, nor

fairly into what is commonly called the Great Sahara,—nor even beyond the necessity of carrying a full evening dress, with white kid gloves. He never felt the heat of the desert. Only once did he go so far from the wells as to be obliged to dispense with the oft-mentioned “cold sponge.” The farthest point he touched southward — Waregla, 32° N.— was visited about the same time by a French army. He had travelled thither from the last French post, El Aghouat, about a hundred and twenty miles, through half-civilized agricultural tribes in subjection to France. He returned thence along a line of military stations. His maps omit some of the principal places he visited, as El Baadj, and contain little important information not given in Colton. We are, however, informed in the Appendix, that the author uses the word Sahara in an Algerian sense, to denote, not the great desert itself, but the “sandy pasture-land,” scantily watered and full of hills, lying between the real desert and the Tell or corn-growing country.

Mr. Tristram is evidently an experienced traveller, an ardent naturalist, a keen observer, and a good Churchman. The narrative of his own adventures is *naïve* and prolix. His accounts of the population, the zoölogy, and the geology of Southern Algeria are very interesting. The inhabitants, whom he supposes to be in part descendants of the ancient Moabites and Ammonites, are honest, temperate, and hospitable. Each village has a guest-house, where the traveller is fed by a different family every day. The people of M'zab live mainly on barley and most delicious mutton. In Waregla they vary this diet by dates and dogs. The dates are raised in gardens dug out in the sand to the depth of from twenty to eighty feet below the surrounding surface. In M'zab or Moab are found sixteen varieties of cotton, in quality the very finest, in quantity extremely little. The slaves are never whipped, and their children are free.

We regret that Mr. Tristram should have given us such expressions as “intending desert-travellers,” and “he returns nothing effected,” and that he should not have stated the year of his tour.

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3. — *A Discourse of Virginia.* By EDWARD MARIA WINGFIELD, the First President of the Colony. Now first printed from the Original Manuscript in the Lambeth Library. Edited, with Notes and an Introduction, by CHARLES DEANE, Member of the American Antiquarian Society and of the Massachusetts Historical Society. Boston. 1860. 8vo. pp. 45.

WINGFIELD'S “Discourse of Virginia, 1607–8,” shows us that the earliest history of the Old Dominion was as full of strife and rebellion